UCS REVIEWED 14-Jul-2010: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

INFORMATION

JCS REVIEWED 14-Jul-2010: REFER TO DOS

June 25, 1971

CONFIDENTIAL - EYES ONLY

MEMORANDUM FOR: GENERAL HAIG

FROM: ADMIRAL WELANDER

SUBJECT: Press Reports of

Defense Attache

Activities Northeast

of Phnom Penh/

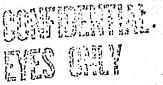
The attached is the best information available to the JCS on background of subject reports.

DIA REVIEWED 15-Jul-2010: SANITIZED FOR RELEASE IN PART.

DOS REVIEWED 16-Jul-2010: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION.

REFER TO DIA

CONFIDENTIAL - EYES ONLY



IMMEDIATE

25 JUNE 1971

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TO LTG BENNETT DIA

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ZEM.

CONFIDENTIAL CAM 624 EYES ONLY

SUBJECT: UPI REPORT OF

25x

REF: A. STATE 113359

- B. PP 3101 (IMMEDIATE FOR SEC STATE)
- 1. REF A CONTAINS FULL TEXT OF UPI REPORT STATING THAT ON 24 JUNE USDAO HELICOPTERS WERE OBSERVED EVACUATING WOUNDED AND RECOUNTING STATEMENTS BY AMBASSADOR AT HIS REGULAR PRESS BACKGROUNDER ON AFTERNOON OF 24TH. REF B IS EMBASSY REPLY GIVING FURTHER EXPLANATION WHICH I QUOTE IN FULL IN PARA 2.
- 2. PHNOM PENH MSG 3101 FOLLOWS:

QUOTE:

ACTION: SEC STATE No Objection To Declassification in Part 2011/04/28: LOC-HAK-14-5-8-2

CCCCCC STATE 15777

1. ATTACHES HAVE, WITH PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE AVEASSADOR, VISITED SEVERAL LOCATIONS IN KHMER REPUBLIC. VISITS ARE MADE IN HELI-COPTERS PROVIDED BY MACY BUT WITH US MILITARY MARKINGS REMOVED AND

SIGN READING QUOTE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA UNQUOTE

DISPLAYED. THIS SIGN IS DESIGNED TO INDICATE THAT HELICOFTER IS

ON ASSIGNMENT TO EMBASSY FOR DAO MISSION AND NOT REPEAT NOT

INVOLVED IN TACTICAL AIR OPERATION. ATTACHES AND HELICOPTER

CREWS ARE REPEAT ARE IN UNIFORM EURING SUCH VISITS. FANK

PERSONNEL FREQUENTLY ACCOMPANY ATTACHES ON VISITS, AND IF THERE

IS SURPLUS SPACE ABOARD, SUPPLIES HAVE SOMETIMES BEEN TRANSPORTED.

WHILE ATTACHE AND PARTY ARE ON THE GROUND AT DESTINATION, THEIR

HELICOPTERS MAVE OCCASIONALLY BEEN MADE AVAILABLE FOR TRANSPORTA
TION OF WOUNDED FANK PERSONNEL BOUND FOR PMANM PENH, PRIMARY PURPOSE

0F	ALL	SUCH	VISITS	15	TRADIT	10N	٩ ـ					
					The Control	7 2	5x1			· ·	Signer of	•*
			TRANS	109	RTATION	.9F	FANK	PERSONNEL	0R			

SUPPLIES IS INCIDENTAL TO PRIMARY MISSION, SUCH VISITS, INCLUDING TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONNEL AND SUPPLIES HAVE BEEN MADE TO VIHEAR SUOR AREA. (ABOVE SUMMARY OF ATTACHE ACTIVITIES MAY BE USED IN RESPONSE TO PRESS INQUIRIES).

2. SUBJECT OF ATTACHE VISITS WAS DISCUSSED AT LENGTH ON JUNE 24

DURING AMBASSADOR'S WEEKLY BACKGROUNDER FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF AVERICAN

MEDIA. ENTIRE SESSION WAS ON BACKGROUND WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ONE

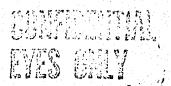
STATEMENT WHICH AMBASSADOR AUTHORIZED BE PLACED ON RECORD,

WHICH IS CONTAINED IN PARA 1, SUBPARA 4 OF REFTEL.

	2. UN BACKGROUND, AMBASSABOR EXPLAINED FACTS OF	il. E.
	25x1	
	No Objection To Declassification in Part 2011/04/28: LOC-HAK-14-	-5-8-
-]	WHEN QUERTED, THE AMBASSADOR STATED HE DID NOT	

BELIEVE THESE ACTIVITIES VIOLATE COOPER-CHURCH AMENDMENT, BUT EXPLAINED HE DID NOT WHICH TO GO ON RECORD WITH A SUBJECTIVE JUDGEMENT. (PARA 1, SUBPARAS 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, REFTEL ARE APPARENTLY BASED ON THIS PORTION OF BRIEFING.)

4. SUBPARA 10 APPEARS TO BE INTERPOLATION OF TWO STATEMENTS: ON THE RECORD STATEMENT THAT ATTACHE VISITS ARE AUTHORIZED IN ADVANCE BY AMBASSADOR AND BACKGROUND EXPLANATION OF OCCASIONAL



BY INCIDENTAL TRANSPORT OF HOUNDED.

- 5. RE REFTEL PARA 1, SUBPARA 11, A PHOTOGRAPHER BELIEVED TO BE ON CONTRACT TO UPI ENTERED ATTACHE HELICOPTER ON JUNE 21 AND WAS INFORMED BY ATTACHE HE WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO RIDE. HE DISEMBARDED AS REQUIRED. NEWSMEN ARE NOT CARRIED ON THESE DATT MISSIONS.
- 6. DATT AFFIRMS THAT HIS HELICOPTERS HAVE BEEN USED VERY

 DCCASIONALLY FOR EVACUATION OF WOUNDED ON RETURN TO PHNOM PENH

 IN ABSENCE COMPARABLE CAMBODIAN AIRLIFT. AMMUNITION HAS NEITHER

 BEEN CARRIED NOR DROPPED.

	5x1	
	25	

SWANK

END QUOTE

- 3. ALTHOUGH I WAS BACK IN EMBASSY AT TIME OF BACKGROUNDER,
 AMBASSADOR WAS NOT AWARE OF THIS AND AS I DO NOT NORMALLY ATTEND
 PRESS BACKGROUNDERS I WAS NO. PRESENT. I DID INSURE THAT REF B MADE
 OLEAR THAT WE HAVE NEVER HAULED AMMUNITION. I STRESS AGAIN THAT WHAT
 WE HAVE DONE IS INCIDENTAL TO OUR NORMAL TRAVEL. IF I AM GOING
 TO VISIT A UNIT IN THE FIELD I WILL CARRY FOOD AND MEDICINE TO THEM
 WITHIN THE LIVITS OF THE HELICOPTER. I WILL RETURN PERSONNEL TO
 PHYOLIPENH OR OLDER FOUNDED.
- 4. AMBASSADOR IS TAKING THIS CALMLY AND I DON'T SEE ANY CURTAILMENT IN OUR MORNAL ACTIVITIES FOR PRESENT. I AM SURE THAT EVERYONE IN WASHINGTON UNDERSTANDS THAT WE CAN NOT REPORT AS WE DO UNLESS WE TRAVEL; FURTHER, THE VALIDITY OF OUR REPORTING DEPENDS TO A GREAT EXTENT ON THE RAPPORT WE HAVE WITH THE FANK UNITS WITH WHOM WE MAVE MADE CONTACT.
- 5. ON QUESTION OF PUBSIBLE PRESS TRAVEL ABOARD DAD AIRCRAFT, I HAVE

CONTINUENTAL EVES CALY

REAFFIRMED WITH THE AMBASSADOR THAT WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT HAUL THESE PEOPLE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. I HAVE TURNED DOWN TWO REQUESTS IN ADDITION TO THE INCIDENT REPORTED IN THE UPI STORY. NHU THO'S SHIP. NHU THO MAD INVITED REPORTER TO ACCOMPANY HIM TO V.S.

6. I PLAN NO CHANGE IN MY ACTIVITIES, BUT WILL TRY TO AVOID REPORTERS FOR THE TIME BEING.

GP-3

SSO NOTE: DELIVER DURING FIRST DUTY HOURS

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